

“They were built upon the ground, from which they rose above two feet, and were of vast circumference and great interior capacity; the branches of trees and other matter of which each nest was composed being enough to fill a cart.”

Now I suppose, from the character of Captains Cook and Flinders, we may place implicit confidence in the truth of these accounts. Indeed, Cook was accompanied to Eagle Island by Sir Joseph Banks. Equally certain is it that no known bird but the *Dinornis* would have built so enormous a nest. I am led therefore almost irresistibly to inquire whether the *Dinornis* may not be an inhabitant of the coast of New Holland, and still alive! Even if extinct upon New Zealand, it may have remained longer in the warmer climate of New Holland. It may be that these nests have been accounted for in some other way; but if so, I have seen no other explanation.

P.S. *Feb.* 1844.—Having occasion to give a lecture this winter before the Young Men’s Association in Troy, N. Y., I had a drawing made of the *Dinornis* of the natural size, on the type of the *Apteryx* and *Cassowary*, and also of one of the nests described above, and I assure you that the nest was only of a *respectable size* for a bird sixteen feet high.—*Silliman’s Journal*, July 1844.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR AUGUST 1844.

*Chiswick*.—August 1. Cloudy: boisterous: clear. 2. Clear and very fine. 3. Showery: boisterous. 4. Dusky clouds: clear and fine. 5. Cloudy and fine: rain. 6. Boisterous: clear and fine. 7. Clear: heavy shower at noon: clear and fine. 8, 9. Fine. 10. Slight haze: fine. 11. Very fine: rain. 12. Heavy rain. 13. Showery. 14. Rain: heavy squall: clear and fine at night. 15. Cloudy. 16. Very fine. 17. Densely overcast. 18, 19. Very fine. 20. Overcast: fine. 21—25. Cloudy and fine. 26. Cloudy. 27. Cloudy and dry. 28. Clear, with hot sun. 29. Cloudless and hot. 30. Fine. 31. Hot and dry.—Mean temperature of the month 2°·57 below the average.

*Boston*.—Aug. 1. Cloudy: rain early A.M.: rain A.M. 2. Fine. 3. Rain: rain early A.M.: rain with thunder and lightning A.M.: rain P.M. 4. Cloudy. 5. Fine: rain at night. 6. Cloudy. 7. Stormy: rain early A.M.: rain with thunder and lightning A.M. 8. Windy: rain A.M. 9. Windy. 10. Fine. 11. Fine: rain P.M. 12. Rain. 13. Fine. 14. Rain: rain early A.M.: rain A.M. and P.M. 15. Cloudy: rain early A.M. 16. Fine: rain P.M. 17. Cloudy. 18—21. Fine. 22—24. Cloudy. 25. Fine. 26. Cloudy. 27—31. Fine.

*Sandwich Manse, Orkney*.—Aug. 1. Cloudy: rain. 2. Bright: clear. 3. Showers: drizzle. 4. Damp: drizzle. 5. Cloudy. 6. Cloudy: rain. 7. Showers: cloudy. 8. Cloudy: showers. 9. Showers. 10—13. Bright: clear. 14. Bright: clear: fine. 15. Clear: fine. 16. Bright: cloudy: fine. 17. Showers: rain. 18. Bright: cloudy. 19. Bright: damp. 20. Showers. 21. Rain: drizzle. 22. Rain: damp. 23. Damp. 24. Damp: cloudy. 25. Bright: cloudy. 26. Drizzle: drops. 27. Drizzle: showers. 28. Bright: clear. 29. Clear. 30. Clear: warm. 31. Clear: cloudy: warm.

*Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire*.—Aug. 1—3. Showers. 4. Fair. 5. Fine. 6, 7. Heavy rain. 8. Rain A.M.: fair P.M. 9. A shower. 10. Fair A.M.: few drops P.M. 11. Fair A.M.: rain P.M. 12. Fair. 13. Showery. 14. Showery: thunder. 15. Fair. 16. Rain P.M. 17. Heavy showers. 18. Fair and clear. 19. Heavy showers. 20. Fair. 21. Fair: a few drops. 22. Rain. 23. Heavy shower P.M. 24. One shower. 25—31. Fair and fine.

Mean temperature of the month .....	54°·6
Mean temperature of Aug. 1843 .....	58·0
Mean temperature of spring-water .....	52·5
Mean temperature of ditto Aug. 1843 .....	53·5